

CITY OF MILPITAS
SISTER CITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION (SCC)
COMMITTEE CONFERENCE ROOM, MILPITAS CITY HALL

MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call** Chair Grilli called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.
Commissioners Present: Awasthi, Chang, Grilli, Strohfus, Tsai.
Commissioners Absent: None. Alternate Commissioner Present: Shapiro.
Council Liaison Anthony Phan: Absent
MHS Student Liaison Dinh: Absent
MUSD Liaison: Absent.
Staff Liaison Leslie Stobbe: Present
- II. Alternates Seating of** Alternate Commissioner Shapiro was seated.
- III. Allegiance Pledge of** Chair Grilli led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Minutes** MOTION to approve the minutes of June 22, 2017.
M / S: Awasthi / Shapiro Ayes: All
- V. Agenda** MOTION to approve the agenda of September 28, 2017.
M / S: Awasthi / Tsai Ayes: All
- VI. Announcements:** None.
- VII. Public Forum:** None.
- VIII. Old Business**
- 1. FY 17-18 Work Plan & Council Presentation**
Commission reviewed and approved the staff presentation.
 - 2. Possible Sister City Relationship with a Latin American City**
Chair Grilli is the lead commissioner. He noted that there is no response from his contact in Santa Cruz, Bolivia and is open to suggestions for other cities,
 - 3. Discuss Interest in Sister City Relationship with Bangalore (Bengaluru), India**
Commissioner Awasthi is the lead commissioner. He reported reaching out to local contacts about Bangalore with limited interest. Commissioner Awasthi is also researching Gurugram City, in the National Capital Region. Formally named Gurgaon, it is located southwest of New Delhi in northern India. Research on both cities will be conducted concurrently.

4. Contact with Milpitas High School (MHS) Leadership Team and Host Families

Staff reported top-notch support from Principal Rojas and Asst. Principal Rivera. The six host families came from staff's visits to Digital Business Academy (DBA) classrooms (3) and Principal Rojas' email to MHS parents (3). A thank you letter will be sent to Principal Rojas. By consensus, the SCC decided to remove this item from the agenda.

5. Current Ideas in Motion to Promote the Sister Cities Program

Staff reported on the possibility of having a civic volunteer assist staff with updating the website and social marketing. Commissioner Shapiro announced she is a reporter for *Tri City Voice*. She distributed the September 26 edition with photos and an article about the Dagupan City visit.

6. e-Pal Project with Sister Cities

Staff reported that there are 48 DBA students and that Dagupan and Huizhou sister cities will participate.

7. Tsukuba City, Japan

No report available.

8. Dagupan City, Philippines

Staff provided an overview of the visit, including the flying of the Philippines national flag in the Veterans Plaza, during the week of September 16 – 24. Home stay families will receive a thank you letter signed by the Council Liaison and a request for response to an evaluation of the visit and activities. The SCC discussed areas needing improvement and prepared a draft memo with staff. The memo is to the Council Liaison and purpose is to detail concerns about the visit, outcomes, and recommendations.

9. Huizhou Municipality, China

Staff noted that there may be a possibility to host students in March 2018 at MHS. There is a week when the school conducts the "Trojan Olympics." She will discuss the possibility with Principal Rojas in November.

X. Student Liaison Report – None

XI. City Council Liaison Report – None

XII. School District Liaison Report – None

XIII. Future Agenda Items

Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges

- i. Tsukuba, Japan
- ii. Dagupan, Philippines
- iii. Huizhou, China

XII. Adjournment

No further business was discussed. Chair Grilli requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting of September 28 to the meeting of October 26, 2017.

M / S: Awasthi / Strohfus

Ayes: All

Milpitas Sister Cities Commission Meeting Minutes, 9/28/17